

during the August 18 interview, the retaining means in Matkovich would prevent the device of Westhall from operating in its disclosed manner.

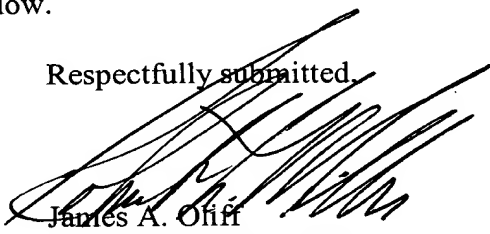
For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-3, 6-13 and 15-21 are patentable over the applied art. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

At the August 18 telephonic interview, Examiner Cross indicated that the rejection will be withdrawn and an updated search will be conducted.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-3, 6-13 and 15-21 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:RAM:GPS/jam

Date: September 2, 2004

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